Special Thematic Issue for Current Vascular Pharmacology

Title of thematic issue: Systemic Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases and Cardiology

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Aims & Scope: Systemic autoimmune rheumatic diseases have been frequently associated with increased cardiovascular (CV) morbidity and mortality mostly related to premature atherosclerosis. The chronic inflammatory state associated with these diseases may play an important role in the pathogenesis of CV disease in these patients. The various CV consequences and manifestations will be reviewed and discussed in this thematic issue by experts in the field. Experts will discuss the underlying pathogenetic mechanisms in this association, the role of CV imaging, whether control of systemic inflammation in these rheumatic diseases may result in a reduction in the risk of CV disease and of the associated CV morbidity and mortality rates, and which preventive and therapeutic measures may be employed in this group of patients.

Keywords: autoimmune rheumatic disease; cardiovascular disease; rheumatoid arthritis; systemic lupus erythematosus; Sjogren's disease; spondyloarthopathies; systemic sclerosis; psoriasis; psoriatic arthritis; vasculitis; antirheumatic drugs; cardiovascular imaging; coronary artery disease; acute coronary syndromes; atherosclerosis; myocardial infarction; stroke

Subtopics:
The subtopics to be covered within this issue are listed below:

**Immune mechanisms affecting the heart**

**CV Disease and Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)**
- Spondyloarthopathies / Ankylosing Spondylitis
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)
- Inflammatory Myopathies / Dermatomyositis / Polymyositis
- Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis
- Systemic Sclerosis (Scleroderma)
- Sjogren's Syndrome
- Vasculitis / ANCA-Associated Vasculitis
- Polymyalgia Rheumatica (PMR) / Giant Cell Arteritis
- Antiphospholipid Syndrome
- Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis

**CV Risk of biologic Disease-Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drugs (DMARDs)**

**CV Risk of traditional and non-biologic DMARDs**

**CV imaging in Systemic Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases**

Schedule:
- Manuscript submission deadline: May 30, 2019
- Peer Review Due: July 15, 2019
- Revision Due: September 6, 2019
- Announcement of acceptance by the Guest Editors:
- Final manuscripts due: September 25, 2019

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